



STATE OF WASHINGTON

DEPARTMENT OF ECOLOGY

4350-150th Ave. N.E. • Redmond, Washington 98052 • (206) 885-1900

MEMORANDUM

September 16, 1981

TO: The files - Hazardous Waste

FROM: Julie Sellick *JS*

SUBJECT: Universal Manufacturing Corporation
Woodinville, Washington

USEPA SF



1486542

On August 21, 1981, Mike Dawda and I toured the Universal Manufacturing Corporation Electroplating facility in Woodinville, Washington, with Mr. Dave Nance, plating manager. This memo serves to document that informal tour.

Mr. Nance led us through the main electroplating room and explained briefly the wastewater recovery and treatment processes which serve to satisfy METRO permit requirements for discharge to METRO's sanitary sewer. He also explained that although cyanides are used in the electroplating processes, this facility is equipped with a cyanide exchanger, so all waste cyanides are collected for recycling rather than for disposal. The hazardous wastes generated by the electroplating processes are as follows: spent nitric and sulphuric acids containing heavy metals, and spent ammonia-copper solutions.

Mr. Nance then led us outside to the back paved lot and showed us their wastewater treatment tubs (regulated under the METRO permit system) and their drum storage area. He indicated that they currently generate approximately five hazardous waste drums/month, and Liquid Waste Disposal picks up their drums about once every two months. He admitted that the drums had not been picked up for "several" months; there were 20-30 hazardous waste drums at the facility. The drums were sitting on the paved lot in an unbermed area. There were also several open plastic containers of spent ammonia-copper solution, supposedly in line to be drummed, and a leaking 5-10 gallon container of a "nickel compound". Mr. Nance explained that Universal Manufacturing Corporation has been short of funds since they had a major fire at the facility at the end of last year, but that the company has been purchased by Universal Circuits and new management will commence in early September, 1981. He expects that the hazardous waste handling will improve significantly under new management and funding.

On September 14, 1981, I contacted Mr. Nance and arranged for Mike Dawda and myself to inspect this facility on a formal basis on September 23, 1981. Mike will conduct a water quality inspection, and I will conduct a RCRA hazardous waste inspection at that time.

JS:bz

This turned out to be wrong. See 10/12/81 memo